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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CHELSEA ROSE SEXSON,

Plaintiff,

vs.

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant

CASE NO.: 2:25-cv-01800-SCR

STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD AND
PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND
EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE EQUAL
ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT; ORDER

The parties, through their respective counsel, hereby agree that attorney fees in the amount of \$9,900 shall be awarded to Plaintiff pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412, and costs of \$0, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1920. Such attorney fees shall be subject to verification that Plaintiff has no debt that qualifies for offset, pursuant to the Treasury Offset Program as discussed in *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S. Ct. 2521 (2010).

If the U.S. Department of the Treasury determines that Plaintiff's EAJA fees are not subject to any offset allowed under the Department of the Treasury's Offset Program, then the check or electronic funds transfer for EAJA fees shall be made payable to Plaintiff's attorney, Margaret Lehrkind, based upon Plaintiff's assignment of these amounts to her. *See Exhibit –*

STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND
EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT; ORDER - 1

1 Retainer Agreement. If Plaintiff has a debt, then any remaining funds after offset shall be made
2 payable to Plaintiff and mailed to counsel's address.

3 This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for EAJA
4 attorney fees and expenses and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of
5 Defendant under the EAJA. Payment of the agreed amount shall constitute a complete release
6 from, and bar to, any and all claims that Plaintiff and/or Plaintiff's counsel may have relating to
7 EAJA attorney fees and expenses in connection with this action.
8

9 This award is without prejudice to the rights of Plaintiff's counsel to seek Social Security
10 Act attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406, subject to the offset provisions of the EAJA.
11

12
13 DATE: November 3, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

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15 Lehrkind Law Office, P.C.

16 By: /s/ Margaret Lehrkind
17 MARGARET LEHRKIND
18 Attorney for Plaintiff

19 DATE: November 3, 2025

By: /s/ Katherine Bennett Watson *
20 KATHERINE BENNETT WATSON
21 *As authorized via email on 10/31/25
22 Special Assistant United States Attorney
23 Attorney for Defendant
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27 STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND
28 EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT; ORDER - 2

[PROPOSED] ORDER

Based upon the parties' Stipulation for the Award and Payment of Equal Access to Justice Act Fees and Expenses (the "Stipulation"),

IT IS ORDERED that fees and expenses in the amount of NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED (\$9,900) as authorized by the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and ZERO dollars (\$0.00), pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1920 be awarded subject to the terms of the Stipulation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: November 17, 2025


SEAN C. RIORDAN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT; ORDER - 3